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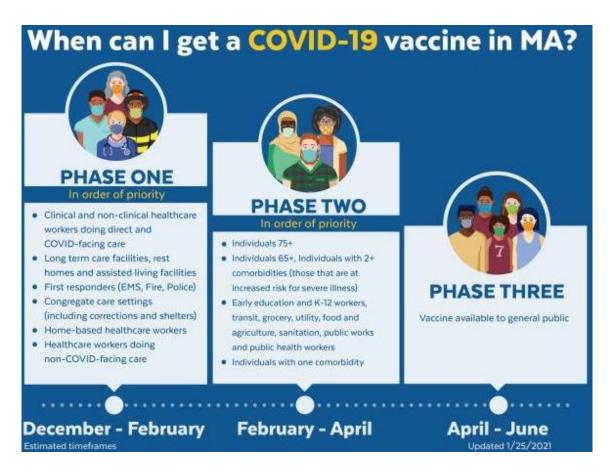
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH** 



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## COVID-19 Vaccine Information: January 27, 2021



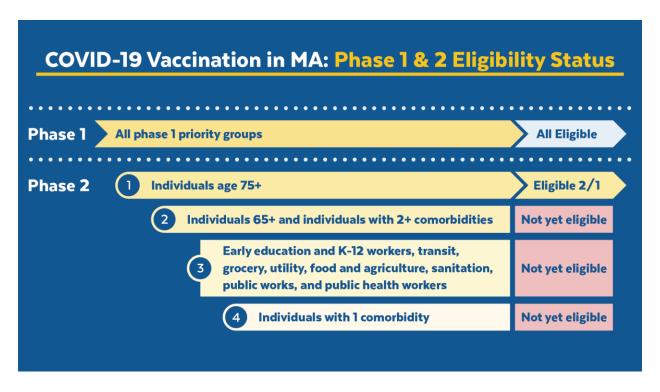
The Town of Belmont is monitoring the availability of COVID-19 vaccines and preparing for the eventual vaccination of the general public. The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is charged with determining the distribution plan for the vaccine in the state. The Town is updating plans for large-scale vaccination of residents to ensure that doses of the vaccine are given quickly and efficiently when they arrive in Belmont.



On January 25<sup>th</sup>, The Baker administration announced updates to plans for Phase Two of the Commonwealth's <u>vaccine distribution plan</u>. Individuals 75 years or older will now be the first priority group in Phase Two, and individuals 65 years and older have been moved into the second priority group, in addition to individuals with two comorbidities.

Individuals age 75 and older are eligible to receive the vaccine beginning February 1, 2021. Select vaccination locations will have appointments available beginning Wednesday, January 27 for individuals age 75 or older. More locations will have appointments available for February 1 and beyond in the coming days. Vaccination sites can be found on the Commonwealth's map at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/CovidVaccineMap">https://www.mass.gov/CovidVaccineMap</a> Vaccination sites will continue to be added to the state's map with appointments released on a rolling basis. Individuals in Phase 1 priority groups will continue to be eligible to schedule appointments and receive the vaccine throughout the distribution of the vaccine.

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has indicated that the Commonwealth is in the process of creating a phone line to allow individuals with limited internet or computer access to call and receive help in scheduling a vaccination appointment. We will provide more information about this resource once it becomes available.



At this time, the Belmont Health Department is expected to have limited access to doses of COVID-19 vaccine throughout February. Expecting a relatively limited supply available for our local clinics, we would encourage individuals who have the ability to travel a bit farther to consider reviewing the Commonwealth's map at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/CovidVaccineMap">https://www.mass.gov/CovidVaccineMap</a> to find a complete list of vaccination locations that are available. The Belmont Health Department will provide additional details on local vaccination clinics once we learn that we have been allocated vaccine by the state.



The Belmont Health Department is conducting a brief survey about how it can best share information about COVID-19 and the eventual availability of vaccines to the community. At the end of the survey there is a section you can complete to indicate if you would like to be added to our email list for updates about the availability about vaccines locally. The survey can be found here: <a href="https://forms.gle/6Dzz3pcj4sgSsmKGA">https://forms.gle/6Dzz3pcj4sgSsmKGA</a>

For up to date information about the Massachusetts COVID-19 vaccine plan, including when the vaccine is projected to be available for various groups, please visit: https://www.mass.gov/covid-19-vaccine-in-massachusetts

## Anticipated Massachusetts Vaccine Distribution Timeline Phase 1, December 2020 – February 2021

Listed in order of priority:

- Clinical and non-clinical health care workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Emergency medical services, police, and fire
- Congregate care settings
- Home-based health care workers
- Health care workers doing non-COVID-facing care

## Phase 2, February - April 2021

Listed in order of priority:

- Individuals age 75+
- Individuals age 65+, Individuals with 2+ <u>comorbidities</u> (only those conditions listed first as at increased risk for severe illness)
- Other workers including, but not limited to, early education and k-12 workers, transit, grocery, utility, food/agriculture workers, sanitation, public works, public health, court system, medical supply chain and funeral workers.
- Individuals with one co-morbid condition

## Phase 3, April 2021

The vaccine is expected to be available to the general public.

For a more detailed description of the priority groups within each Phase, please visit: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-distribution-timeline-phase-overview">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-vaccine-distribution-timeline-phase-overview</a>

Massachusetts is actively clarifying where each group resides on the state's COVID-19 vaccination prioritization list. Please submit any questions or concerns to: COVID-19-Vaccine-Plan-MA@mass.gov

